8th May 1954]

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Sir, in this particular case the lands referred to are margin porambokes of a canal and they could not be assigned. The question of assignment of such of the lands as could be assigned is under the consideration of the Collector."

Opening of an Agricultural Demonstrator's office at Quilandy.

* 588 Q.—SRI C. KUNHIRAMA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal under consideration for opening an Agricultural Demonstrator's office at Quilandy, North Malabar district? 8-20 a.m.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The answer is in the negative."

Maintenance of the Prohibition chowkies at Mahe.

* 589 Q.—SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(a) the cost of maintenance of the Prohibition chowkies at Mahe border per year;

(b) how many cases were detected in the year 1952–53; and

(c) whether the chowkidars have been ordered to stop and check all vehicles passing that way?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (a) The cost of maintenance of the seven Prohibition chowkies around the Mahe border is Rs. 38,878 per year;

" (b) a total number of 108 Prohibition cases were detected in the year 1952–53;

" (c) under section 32 of the Prohibition Act, all Prohibition officers have power to search any vehicle in which they may have reasonable cause to suspect any liquor, drug or other article to be, or to be concealed, and so no specific orders to the chowkidars to stop and check all vehicles passing the chowkies are necessary."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Are Government aware that these seven chowkies are a big drain on their resources? At the same time, drink is freely flowing across the frontier without any let or hindrance. Will the Government therefore think it desirable to abolish these chowkies and thereby minimise the interminable nuisance caused to passengers going up and down in buses and other vehicles? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Government cannot give such assurance now."

SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR :—" Are the Government aware that no checking is made regarding the motor cars used by rich and influential people? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Sufficient checking is imposed on all vehicles. I am afraid the hon. Member is not correct in his statement." '

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Due to the paucity of the chowkidars posted in these borders, there is an incessant flow of smuggled liquor into the State of Madras. Will the Government take sufficient steps to increase the number of chowkidars or post some other personnnel to prevent such smuggling of liquor? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" At present, Government consider the present strength of chowkidars to be quite sufficient, Sir."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Will the Government make the position very clear to the chowkidars and superior officers that all vehicles should not be checked indiscriminately but only vehicles, in respect of which there is some reasonable suspicion; what really happens is this reasonable suspicion is not shown in respect of people who are *persona grata* with the prohibition staff there."

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Government cannot help it. As a matter of policy, we have got to check every vehicle that passes through the borders."

Shifting of Government offices from rented buildings to Government buildings.

* 590 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether all the Government Offices which were functioning in private buildings have been shifted to Government buildings after the separation of the Andhra State;

(*b*) how many offices have still to be shifted; and

(*c*) the total savings so far effected by such shifting?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) Sixty-six.

" (*c*) About Rs. 10,600 (rupees ten thousand and six hundred only) per mensem."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" இன்னும் சென்னையில் எத்தனை கவர்ன்மெண்ட் அலுவலகங்கள் பிரைவேட் கட்டடங்களில் நடத்தப்பட்டு வருகின்றன ? அவைகளுக்காக வருஷ வாரியில் எவ்வளவு குடக்கூலியாகப் பணம் செலுத்தப் படுகிறது ? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" There are 66 offices still remaining outside. The expenses to Government on account of this is Rs. 12,100."